

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2348

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding the rigorous standard of quality applicable to paraprofessionals hired before the date of enactment of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 5, 2003

Mr. DUNCAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding the rigorous standard of quality applicable to paraprofessionals hired before the date of enactment of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American ParaProfes-
5 sional Learning Equity Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. RIGOROUS STANDARD OF QUALITY FOR EXISTING**
2 **PARAPROFESSIONALS.**

3 Subsection (d) of section 1119 of the Elementary and
4 Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6319) is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 “(d) EXISTING PARAPROFESSIONALS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each local educational
8 agency receiving assistance under this part shall en-
9 sure that by not later than January 8, 2006, all
10 paraprofessionals hired before January 8, 2002, and
11 working in a program supported with funds under
12 this part, shall have—

13 “(A) satisfied paragraph (1) or (2) of sub-
14 section (c); or

15 “(B) met a rigorous standard of quality as
16 demonstrated through an evaluation (conducted
17 in accordance with procedures and criteria de-
18 veloped under paragraph (2)) of each such
19 paraprofessional’s—

20 “(i) performance of job duties that
21 occur in the presence of students; and

22 “(ii) knowledge of, and ability to as-
23 sist in, instructing reading, writing, and
24 mathematics (or reading readiness, writing
25 readiness, and mathematics readiness, as

1 applicable) at the grade level of the stu-
2 dents to be instructed.

3 “(2) PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA.—Not later
4 than January 8, 2005, each State educational agen-
5 cy receiving assistance under this part shall develop
6 procedures and criteria for an evaluation described
7 in paragraph (1)(B). Such procedures and criteria
8 shall include the following:

9 “(A) Each evaluation of a paraprofessional
10 working in a local educational agency must be
11 conducted by an employee of a different local
12 educational agency or of the State educational
13 agency.

14 “(B) Each employee who conducts an eval-
15 uation must be trained or approved by the
16 State educational agency.”.

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